

with its recent decision to force its stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary ("Stolen Honor") days before the election, Sinclair Broadcasting fails to meet its obligation to serve the public interest. Sinclair's stations reach about a quarter of US TV viewers. This move smacks strongly of manipulation of elections - unless of course the stations were also to air a pro-Kerry (or anti-Bush) program near the same time.

This is an example of how large company media ownership can weaken our democracy. More local control of programming and local news production could give us a more vigorous and diverse flow of information that would tend to empower voters, not manipulate them.

The FCC license renewal process should evaluate and take into account these sorts of actions. Thank you.